REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 22-56 are pending, claims 1-27 have been cancelled by replacement in the preliminary amendment of April 13, 2000. Claim 56 is newly added.

Claim 55 has been amended to change the claim dependency to claim 37.

There are no formal matters outstanding.

Claims 28-55 were rejected as anticipated by Internetworking with TCP/IP Principles, Protocols, and Architectures by Douglas E. Comer ("Comer").

Applicants respectfully disagree.

Comer concerns the well-known TCP/IP protocol which concerns a method of message delivery from A to B by means of data comprised in a header. The TCP/IP header contains a sender and a receiver and Comer teach various methods such as fragmentation of data into smaller chunks and then re-integrating the chunks at the destination location B. These method employ encapsulation of data, and employing heads some of which are optional.

In contrast, the recited invention is directed to communications between communication apparatuses, to the content (in Comer referred to as 'data') of messages sent between communication apparatuses.

Indeed, since TCP/IP is concerned with getting from A to B, it does not address content (data). See the text below figure 7.2 of Comer: "IP specifies the header format including the source and destination IP address. IP does not specify the format of the data area; it can be used to transport arbitrary data." TCP/IP views data as an abstract thing. See Comer's page 98, the message content (dta) is abstract and all other references, i.e., from VERS to PADDING in figure 7.3, specify <u>header</u> options like fragmentation which are related to how a message will be delivered to the receiver at destination B.

Accordingly, the recitations of independent claim 28 are not believed to be disclosed.

Comer does disclose use of a message header portion. 7.7.2 Datagram Type of Service and Differentiated Services (on page 99) specify in which way agents between senders and receivers may (or may not) decide how to deliver the message. Again, this is expected as TCP/IP concerns delivery of data and the not content/content format of a message.

Specifically, claim 28 recites a message content including at least a number of fields (FIELD COUNT) and content of any field (FIELD(1),...). For this recitation Comer page 99, paragraphs 2-3 are offered. These do not, however, disclose a message content that includes a number of fields and content of any field. Rather, HLEN gives the diagram header length measured

in 32-bit words and the TOTAL LENGTH field gives only the length of the IP diagram measured in octets.

Although the size of the data area can be computed (TOTAL LENGTH - HLEN) the size determination is also not anticipatory of the claim recitation.

Claim 28 also recites that the message content portions includes an objects portion, a field mappings portion, and an actions portions. These are recited as:

> number of objects (OBJECT COUNT) and content
> of any object (OBJECT(1),...), the objects being
> referred to by one or more of the fields;

> number of field mappings and content of any
> field mapping, any field mapping being usable by
> predetermined fields; [and]

> number of actions and content of any actions,
> any action being at least usable by predetermined
> fields.

The sections of Comer offered by the Official Action seem to indicate that TCP/IP can be used for transporting a variety of data types. However, there is no disclosure of a message format having, in the same message, the recited features.

That Comer discloses TCP/IP header configurations suitable for transporting different data types does not disclose of suggest of message of the format being recited. Comer leaves

message format itself as an abstract. See 7.3 showing data as simple 32-bit words.

Lastly, the recited interpreting and processing of the recited message is also missing from Comer.

In view of these shortcomings, the anticipation rejection is not believed to be viable. Reconsideration and withdrawal are respectfully requested.

Claims depending from claim 28 are believed to be patentable at least for depending from an allowable claim.

As to claim 37, this claim is directed to an apparatus that can be used in the method of claims 28-36. The claims are to an apparatus comprising a database with a predetermined message definition table, a field definition table, a mapping instructions and a message action list are not disclosed by Comer. In section 25 of the Official Action, the disclosures offered only relate to header information and do not disclose the recited tables.

Accordingly, allowance of claim 37 and the claims depending therefrom is also solicited.

New claim 56 is believed to patentably recite the present invention and its allowance is therefore solicited.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.
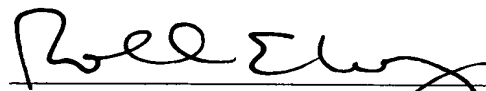
Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early indication of the same is respectfully requested.

Should there by any matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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